

Chapter 2:

Supply of Outdoor Recreation Facilities

- ♦ Facility Inventory
- ♦ Facility Ownership
- ♦ Condition & Needs

Chapter 2: Supply of Outdoor Recreation Facilities

In order to understand outdoor recreation needs in Montana, it is necessary to begin with an examination of existing conditions--an inventory and assessment of existing outdoor recreation facilities, sites and services--and then to compare those facilities with outdoor recreation demand. This chapter provides an overview of outdoor recreation facilities and their condition on a statewide basis, as well as by region and by facility ownership. The next chapter addresses outdoor recreation demand. This chapter has eight sections.

- 2.1 Facility Inventory Methodology & Limitations
- 2.2 Overview of Montana's Outdoor Recreation Lands & Facilities
- 2.3 Statewide & Regional Public Facility Inventory
- 2.4 Ownership of Facilities
- 2.5 Condition of Facilities
- 2.6 Facility Needs
- 2.7 Estimated Costs to Meet Facility Needs
- 2.8 Summary & Implications

Online Facility Inventory Survey Participant Groups Contacted

- ♦ Montana Cities (Montana League of Cities and Towns)
- ♦ Montana Counties (Montana Association of Counties)
- ♦ School Districts (Montana School District Superintendents)
- ♦ Montana Park & Recreation Association (MRPA)
- ♦ Montana Tribes & Tribal Colleges
- ♦ Montana Colleges & Universities
- ♦ Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- ♦ Montana Dept. of Natural Resources Conservation (DNRC)
- ♦ USDA Forest Service
- ♦ Bureau of Land Management
- ♦ US Fish & Wildlife Service
- ♦ National Park Service
- ♦ US Army Corps of Engineers
- ♦ US Bureau of Reclamation

2.1 Facility Inventory Methodology & Limitations

A statewide survey of recreation facility managers was conducted in October 2002 to obtain an inventory of all public recreation facilities. To conduct the survey, the planning team used an online (web-based) format. The team developed a draft survey instrument with input from the staff at Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) and the SCORP Advisory Committee. The draft instrument was presented for review at the September 2002 meeting of the Montana Recreation & Parks Association (MRPA), and refined based on the input received (see survey instrument, Appendix A). The survey was then programmed for the web-based format. Before it

was launched online, the survey was pre-tested to improve usability and utility. More than 550 potential public sector survey participants were contacted by both mail and email, using lists from FWP, participant organizations, and agencies (see sidebar at right). Due to time and budget constraints, private sector entities were not surveyed; however, city and county participants were asked to estimate the quantity of privately owned outdoor recreation facilities within their city or county jurisdiction. A total of 236 online questionnaires were completed, representing 95 local, tribal, state and federal entities from all seven FWP administrative regions (Table 2.1).

Table 2.1
Online Facility Inventory Survey
Participants by FWP Region

FWP Region	# Surveys	% of Ttl
Region 1	25	10.6
Region 2	30	12.7
Region 3	46	19.5
Region 4	38	16.1
Region 5	27	11.4
Region 6	35	14.8
Region 7	35	14.8

A true “inventory” should account for all facilities in the state. While efforts were made to encourage participation in the survey and make the inventory as complete as possible, response was lower than anticipated among Montana cities and counties, perhaps due to the timing of the survey (the survey was available online for participants to complete from October 18 to 25, 2002). Participation was surprisingly high among school districts. A handful of participants experienced web browser incompatibilities (those using older versions of Netscape), and in those cases, the planning team obtained the data by email or fax, and entered it directly into the database.

Therefore, the term “inventory” as it is used in this report refers only to the inventory of facilities reported by the survey participants--it is not a complete statewide inventory. The planning team, FWP and the SCORP Advisory Committee are aware of the limitations created by a partial data set. Therefore, additional data about outdoor recreation were gathered so that this SCORP document would reflect Montana’s outdoor recreation needs and priorities in areas that may not appear to be supported by the online survey data.

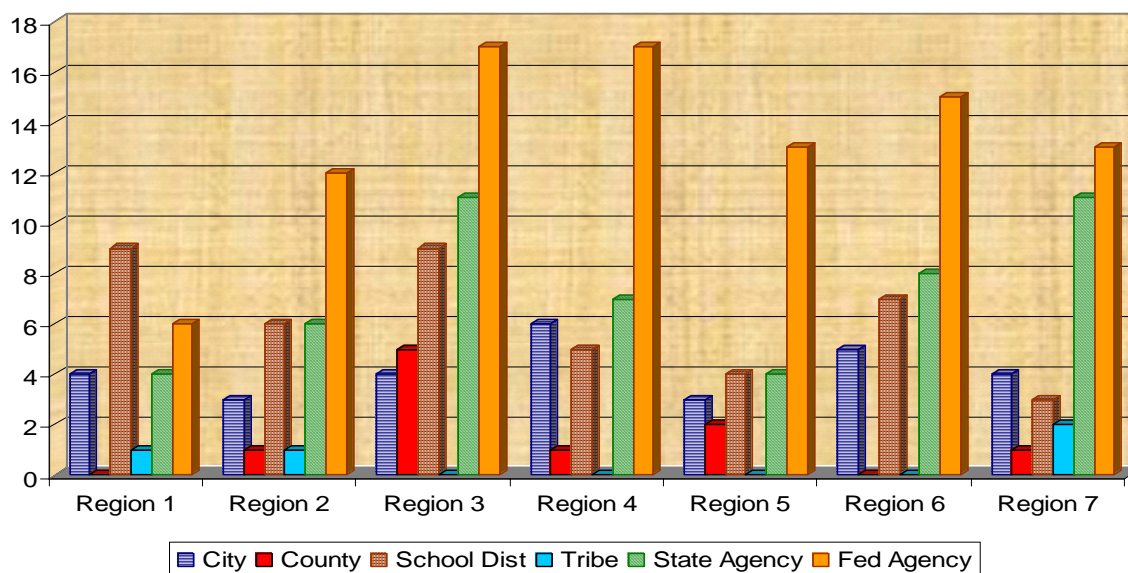
When Montana’s last SCORP document was developed in 1993, a two-page written survey was sent to cities and counties, and data were collected over a period of several months in spring 1992. Completed surveys were received from 61 cities and 21 counties, but results were reported only for the 7 largest cities (collectively, 31% of state population) and 20 counties (46% of state population). By comparison, the 2002 online survey was completed in two weeks by 29 cities and 10 counties, as well as 43 school districts, 6 tribal recreation and college facility managers, 1 local park district, 2 nonprofit organizations, 51 state agency management units and 93 federal agency management units (for a complete list, see Appendix B). The combined population of the 2002 participant cities represents 27% of Montana’s population, and the combined population of the participant counties also represents 27% of Montana’s population. Table 2.1 summarizes the distribution of survey participants by region across the state. Table 2.2 and Figure 2.1 left show the participants by organization type and FWP region (see map of FWP regions, Figure 1.3, page 10).

As Table 2.2 indicates, nearly 40% of the participants were from local entities (cities, counties, park districts, school districts, tribes and colleges). About 60% were from state and federal agencies. All regions were represented, with the lowest participation in region 1 and the highest in region 3. State agencies, federal agencies and school districts were well represented in all regions, except for state agencies in regions 1 and 5. Counties were under-represented statewide, with no representation in regions 1 and 6. Cities also were under-represented statewide. There were no tribal participants in regions 3-6. Therefore, the survey results are presented in this chapter with the knowledge that some subgroups were not proportionately represented. In order to gain additional insights, the planning team posted the survey results to the SCORP project web site and conducted public meetings to present the findings and obtain feedback.

The online survey results are presented in sections 2.3 through 2.7, prefaced on the next two pages by an overview of Montana’s existing public and private outdoor recreation lands and facilities.

Table 2.2: Survey Participants by Type & Region

	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	Total
City	4	3	4	6	3	5	4	29
County	0	1	5	1	2	0	1	10
School Dist	9	6	9	5	4	7	3	43
Tribe	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	4
State Agency	4	6	11	7	4	8	11	51
Fed Agency	6	12	17	17	13	15	13	93
Park Dist	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Coll/Univ.	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Nonprofit	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Other	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	25	30	46	38	27	35	35	236

Figure 2.1: Survey Participant Types by Region

2.2 Montana's Outdoor Recreation Lands & Facilities

Montana's land base is 39% state, tribal and federal land (57,346 square miles), and 61% private and municipal (city or county) land. Figure 2.2 is a map of all federally owned public lands in Montana, along with Montana's 42 state parks. On the following pages, the survey participants indicate that they manage nearly 28 million acres of public parks and open space for outdoor recreation, of which nearly 20 million acres are available for hunting (this does not include 3.4 million acres managed by the Montana Dept. of Natural Resources Conservation, because they did not participate in the survey). Participant organizations also manage nearly 464,000 acres of lakes, 650+ fishing access sites, 22,000 miles of designated non-motorized trails, and about 9,700 miles of designated motorized trails. Although these figures do not represent all of the public lands available for outdoor recreation in Montana, they do demonstrate the extensive amount of land that is available.

The federal lands in Montana are composed of six national parks and monuments, nine national forests, twenty-one national wildlife refuges, one national scenic trail and two national historic trails. Montana contains 2,000 miles of the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail: 25% of the entire Trail and more than any other state. The Bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark Expedition will take place in Montana in 2005 and 2006, so Trail-related preservation, interpretive and recreational opportunities are particularly important over the next five years – heritage tourism opportunities created by the Bicentennial will benefit local and regional economies.

According to the survey participants, privately owned outdoor recreation facilities include 600+ acres of parks and open space, 70 golf courses, nearly 80 ball fields, 70+ play courts, nearly 250 miles of non-motorized trails, 1,100 camping and RV spaces, and 1,000 acres of hunting lands. Because of the low survey participation, these figures are only a limited glimpse of actual facility counts.

The planning team compiled statewide figures from secondary data to demonstrate the scope of outdoor recreation lands and facilities for specific activities. Access to hunting and fishing is an important issue in Montana. To help address this issue, Montana FWP has a “Block Management” program to enroll private lands for game management and hunting access. Landowners (primarily farmers and ranchers) sign annual agreements, and they are compensated for costs associated with public access and game management. Figure 2.3 shows the acres of private lands enrolled in the Block Management program by FWP region.

From 1996 to 2001, total acres enrolled in Montana’s Block Management program increased from 7.1 million to 8.7 million acres, or about 22%. The acreage amounts and enrollment trends varied by region (Figure 2.3). Region 7 had 3.3 million acres enrolled in 2001, while the other regions ranged from about 500,000 to 1.2 million acres. In regions 2 and 3, acreage increased by more than 100% between 1996 and 2001, while region 7 acreage declined and then rose again, for a net gain of only 4%. In region 1, acreage declined by 9% from 1996 to 2001.

Figure 2.2: Public Land Ownership in Montana

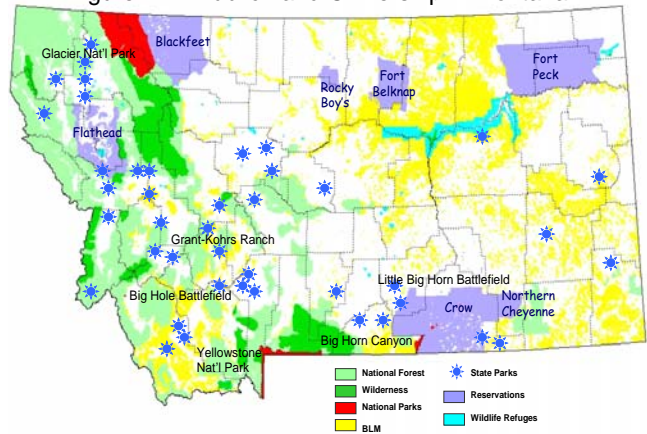


Figure 2.3: Block Management Acres by Region 1996-2001

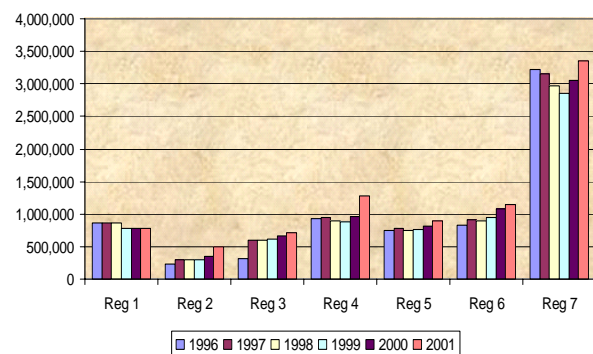


Figure 2.4: 2001 Visitor Activities at Montana Wildlife Refuges

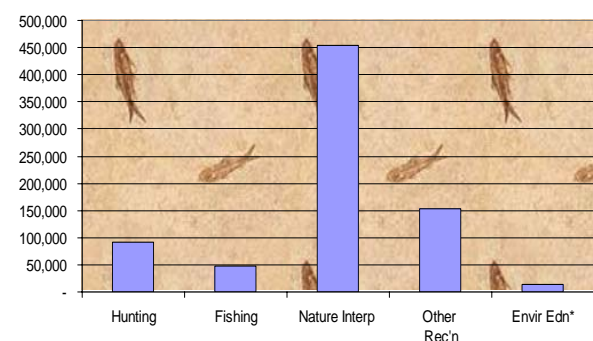
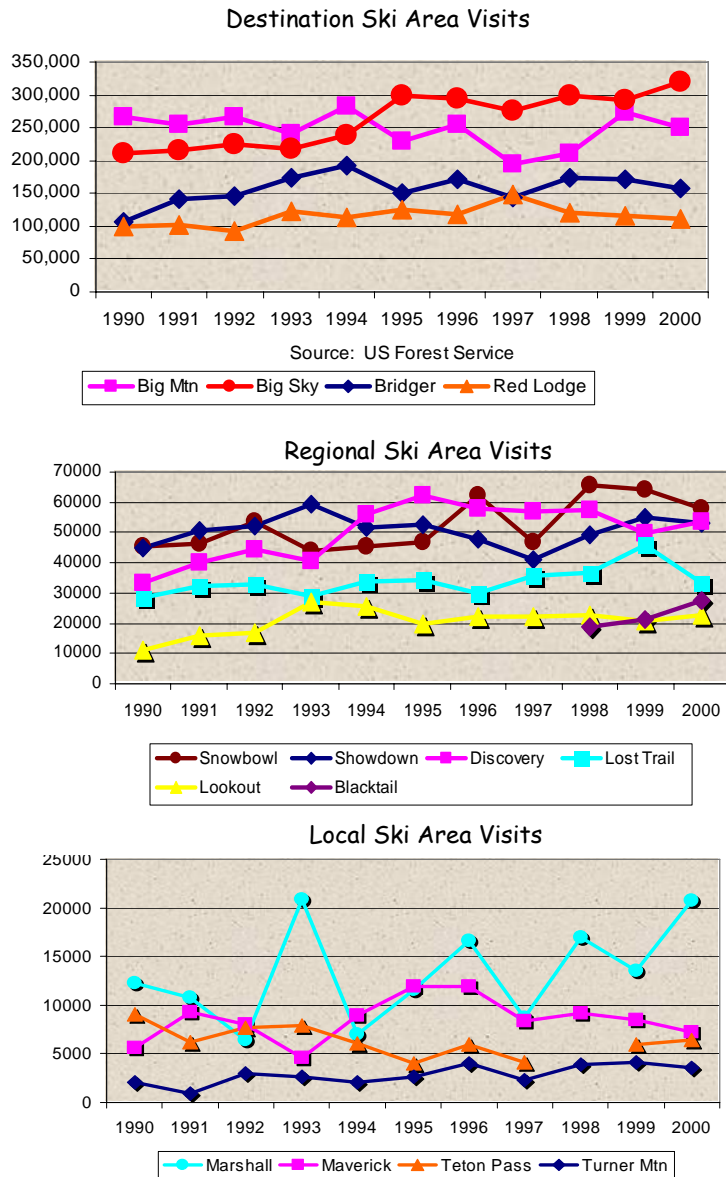


Fig. 2.5: Montana Ski Area Trends



"Destination" ski areas are defined as 100k+ skier visits;
 "Regional" ski areas are defined as 20k-70k skier visits;
 "Local" ski areas are defined as <20k skier visits.

groundwater supplies, and provide flood control. Montana has a wetlands strategy that has been developed by the Montana Wetlands Council under the guidance of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Appendix C provides more information about wetlands in Montana, and how the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program pertains to Montana's wetland preservation, restoration and mitigation activities.

In winter, Montana boasts a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities, from downhill skiing and snowmobiling to ice fishing. Figure 2.5 shows ski area visitation trends at Montana's fourteen major destination, regional and local ski areas, which cumulatively offer 14,000+ acres of skiing on 790 runs served by 84 lifts. There are more than 660 kilometers of groomed cross-country ski trails at twelve private centers, nine national forests and two national parks statewide.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service manages twenty-one national wildlife refuges (NWR) and five wetland management districts (WMD) in Montana encompassing more than one million acres, which received more than 600,000 visitors in 2001 (an increase of 43% since 1996). The largest share of those visitors participated in nature interpretation or other recreational activities (Figure 2.4 on the previous page). Nearly 100,000 of those visitors were hunters, and about 50,000 were anglers. Hunter visitation increased by 46%, and angler visitation by 32% from 1996 to 2001. In 1995—the year prior to this chart—the C.M. Russell NWR alone recorded 62,608 hunter visits and 43,700 angler visits, which together represented 96% of all visits to the CMR.

The National Wildlife Refuges contain 128,000 acres of wetlands, which are part of an estimated 840,300 acres of land containing wetlands in Montana (Dahl, 1990). Wetlands play an important role in the support of outdoor recreation activities in Montana (hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, etc.) by providing habitat for fish and wildlife. They also improve water quality by filtering sediments and toxins out of water, recharge wells and

Snowmobilers can enjoy 5,000+ miles of groomed trails at designated snowmobile areas statewide, plus many ungroomed areas.

Montana's extraordinary public lands provide a diverse supply of outdoor recreation facilities and assets. The next section provides details about the outdoor recreation facility inventory as reported by the survey participants.

2.3 Statewide & Regional Public Facilities

The first survey question asked facility managers to indicate the quantity or size and condition of each type of outdoor recreation facility that their organization owns or manages.

Table 2.3 summarizes the results of participant answers about the quantity and size of facilities statewide and by region. As noted on page 14, survey participation from cities and counties was limited, so the counts of facilities in several categories are under-represented (e.g., swimming pools, soccer fields, playgrounds, etc.).

Table 2.3: Statewide & Regional Inventory of Participants' Recreation Facilities

Facility Type	Quantity by Region							Statewide Total
	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	Region 7	
Parks / Open Space (acres)	5,075,405	3,890,375	8,074,866	2,890,769	1,048,104	3,576,951	3,141,096	27,697,566
Picnic Areas	141	60	161	38	71	57	53	581
Skate Parks	-	1	3	-	1	-	2	7
Ice Skating Rinks	2	3	14	5	-	5	2	31
Roller Skating Rinks	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Golf Courses	3	1	3	-	2	1	2	12
Fitness Courses	3	1	1	1	7	-	2	15
Climbing Areas/Walls	1	2	1	-	3	-	-	7
Fairgrounds	-	1	2	-	1	2	2	8
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	-	2	4	3	2	2	2	15
Baseball Fields	18	32	62	14	72	7	7	212
Softball Fields	23	18	30	8	29	8	10	126
Football Fields	15	6	16	7	18	17	4	83
Soccer Fields	24	12	18	9	12	5	2	82
Track, Running	9	7	7	7	8	10	4	52
Volleyball Courts	7	21	18	8	7	2	5	68
Basketball Courts	36	41	54	10	34	17	15	207
Tennis Courts	24	35	46	6	32	11	18	172
Playgrounds	50	48	83	18	44	21	27	291
Swimming Pools/Water Parks	3	4	7	5	7	3	7	36
Lakes (acres)	191,956	144	13,440	10,188	21,514	226,119	549	463,910
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, Lake	74	15	17	13	14	19	7	159
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, River	32	33	58	13	15	9	16	176
Boat Docks	48	16	25	6	7	11	6	119
Swimming Beaches	8	7	6	-	2	2	1	26
Fishing Access Sites	71	87	115	47	42	31	261	654
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only (miles)	824	1,785	699	115	190	1	31	3,645
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved (miles)	23	14	54	18	12	2	4	127
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpaved (miles)	195	274	70	11	32	-	7	589
Trails: Horse/hiking (miles)	6,219	5,117	4,581	640	239	-	143	16,939
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed (miles)	197	81	251	10	13	-	13	565
Trails: OHV/Roads (miles)	2,196	330	1,579	-	-	-	-	4,105
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed (miles)	2,575	1,734	1,201	84	-	-	-	5,594
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	473	172	576	311	420	30	131	2,113
Campground/RV: Spaces w/ HU	21	15	27	-	87	171	8	329
Campground/RV: Spaces w/out HU	1,876	789	1,284	715	596	246	140	5,646
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	10	2	5	5	3	5	2	32
Hunting Lands, Public (acres)	5,072,070	3,785,090	6,800,534	2,008,397	623,901	865,222	621,527	19,776,741
Shooting/Archery Range	2	2	6	1	1	2	4	18
Downhill Ski Areas (acres)	3	352	250	251	350	-	-	1,206
Sledding/Tubing Hills (acres)	3	2	9	-	4	30	-	48

The figures for parks, open space and public hunting lands are large because they include state and federal lands managed by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, National Park Service, USDA Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Corps of Engineers. The Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC) did not respond to the survey, so 3.4 million acres of state trust lands are not included in the inventory.

The acreage of lakes in region 2 appears to be low, based on the number of lakes actually located in the six counties. Some USFS lakes have not been surveyed, so acreage is not available. No OHV trails were reported in regions 4, 5, 6 or 7, and no groomed snowmobile trails in regions 5, 6 and 7. Note that USFS and BLM trail miles reported are based on estimates rather than actual data. Included are designated “system route” trails only; they do not include roads, “user-created” trails or open riding areas (see Chapter 4 for more information). The miles of walking, hiking, and biking trails appear to be underreported in regions 6 and 7, because those regions contain Ft. Peck Lake, and CM Russell Wildlife Refuge. Trail data were not provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service or DNRC. The survey did not obtain data about acreage of urban or rural motorized parks and play areas.

2.4 Ownership of Facilities

Publicly Owned Facilities

Table 2.4 summarizes the inventory of public outdoor recreation facilities by owner type (local, state or federal). Note that local entities provide less than 1% of all acres of parks and open space, but nearly half (45%) of all picnic areas, almost two-thirds (63%) of paved bike and pedestrian trail miles, and more than one-third (37%) of campgrounds and RV spaces with hookups. Although local entities own and manage 41 acres of hunting lands, it translates to 0% in the table because 41 of 1.2 million acres is only .0034%. These figures only include local entities that responded to the survey, so a more complete inventory would increase the percentages of facilities owned or managed by those entities.

State agencies provide significant acreage of parks and open space, lakes and public hunting lands, along with 84% of fishing access sites and 25% of miles of groomed snowmobile trails. Fish, Wildlife & Parks alone manages 320 fishing access sites. Because the Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC) did not participate in the survey, figures for state ownership of open space, trails, campgrounds, hunting lands and fishing and boating access sites are under-represented. Lands owned by the Montana Heritage Preservation & Development Commission also are not represented.

Federal agencies provide the majority of acres for parks and open space, lakes and hunting lands, as well as miles of trails for hiking, horseback riding, 4-wheeling, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. They also provide most of the undeveloped campsites (no hookups, tent spaces) and snow skiing facilities.

Table 2.4: Quantity & Ownership of Participants' Facilities

Facility Type	Local	%	State	%	Federal	%	TOTAL
Parks / Open Space (acres)	22,130	0.1	229,539	0.8	27,445,897	99.1	27,697,566
Picnic Areas	262	45.1	162	27.9	157	27.0	581
Skate Parks	6	85.7	1	14.3	-		7
Ice Skating Rinks	30	96.8	1	3.2	-		31
Roller Skating Rinks	3	100.0	-		-		3
Golf Courses	12	100.0	-		-		12
Fitness Courses	15	100.0	-		-		15
Climbing Areas/Walls	7	100.0	-		-		7
Fairgrounds	8	100.0	-		-		8
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	15	100.0	-		-		15
Baseball Fields	212	100.0	-		-		212
Softball Fields	123	97.6	1	0.8	2	1.6	126
Football Fields	83	100.0	-		-		83
Soccer Fields	82	100.0	-		-		82
Track, Running	52	100.0	-		-		52
Volleyball Courts	65	95.6	1	1.5	2	2.9	68
Basketball Courts	204	98.6	-		3	1.4	207
Tennis Courts	172	100.0	-		-		172
Playgrounds	282	96.9	3	1.0	6	2.1	291
Swimming Pools/Water Parks	35	97.2	1	2.8	-		36
Lakes (acres)	65,268	14.1	106,546	23.0	292,096	63.0	463,910
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, Lake	6	3.8	78	49.1	75	47.2	159
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, River	7	4.0	136	77.3	33	18.8	176
Boat Docks	5	4.2	54	45.4	60	50.4	119
Swimming Beaches	8	30.8	7	26.9	11	42.3	26
Fishing Access Sites	26	4.0	551	84.3	77	11.8	654
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only (miles)	75	2.1	42	1.2	3,528	96.8	3,645
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved (miles)	80	63.0	18	14.2	29	22.8	127
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpaved (miles)	124	21.1	24	4.1	441	74.9	589
Trails: Horse/hiking (miles)	36	0.2	8	0.0	16,895	99.7	16,939
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed (miles)	6	1.1	-		559	98.9	565
Trails: OHV/Roads (miles)	-		-		4,105	100.0	4,105
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed (miles)	-		1,415	25.3	4,179	74.7	5,594
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	175	8.3	844	39.9	1,094	51.8	2,113
Campground/RV: Spaces w/ HU	122	37.1	21	6.4	186	56.5	329
Campground/RV: Spaces w/out HU	374	6.6	1,016	18.0	4,256	75.4	5,646
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	12	37.5	8	25.0	12	37.5	32
Hunting Lands, Public (acres)	41	0.0	241,011	1.2	19,535,689	98.8	19,776,741
Shooting/Archery Range	12	66.7	5	27.8	1	5.6	18
Downhill Ski Areas (acres)	-		-		1,206	100.0	1,206
Sledding/Tubing Hills (acres)	48	100.0	-		-		48

Privately Owned Facilities

In the online survey, city and county recreation facility managers were asked to estimate the number of privately owned outdoor recreation facilities that are open to the public in their city or county. Because of the low response rate from cities and counties to the online survey, the amount of information collected in response to the question about privately owned facilities also was low. However, Table 2.4a summarizes the responses received, and is provided by the planning team for reference only. There were insufficient data to show a meaningful breakdown of facilities by region or private owner type.

As Table 2.4a indicates, most of the privately owned facilities are either owned by businesses or nonprofit organizations. Facilities most likely to be owned by businesses are golf courses, horse and rodeo arenas, swimming pools, campgrounds and RV parks, and downhill ski areas. Facilities most likely to be owned by churches or private schools are play fields and sports

Table 2.4a: Privately-Owned Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Facility Type	# of Survey Participants	Facility Quantity	Owner Type				
			Private Business	Church/Priv Schl	Club	Other Nonprofit	Other
Parks/Open Space (acres)	7	628	2	1	3	-	1
Picnic Areas	6	57	2	-	-	3	1
Skate Parks	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
Ice Skating Rinks	5	5	1	-	-	2	1
Roller Skating Rinks	5	6	3	-	1	-	-
Golf Courses	15	70	9	-	-	5	1
Fitness Courses	3	5	-	-	-	3	-
Climbing Areas/Walls	5	9	3	-	-	2	-
Fairgrounds	8	8	1	-	-	4	3
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	13	20	5	-	-	6	2
Baseball Fields	10	40	-	-	-	3	1
Softball Fields	4	15	-	-	-	3	1
Football Fields	6	11	-	1	-	2	3
Soccer Fields	4	12	-	1	-	3	-
Track, Running	9	10	-	1	1	3	4
Volleyball Courts	2	17	-	1	-	1	-
Basketball Courts	7	29	-	2	-	3	2
Tennis Courts	6	28	1	-	-	3	1
Playgrounds	8	43	-	1	-	3	4
Swimming Pools	8	20	5	-	-	3	4
Lakes (acres)	2	42	-	-	-	1	1
Boat Ramps, Lake	2	2	-	-	-	1	1
Boat Ramps, River	2	3	-	-	-	1	1
Boat Docks	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Swimming Beaches	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Fishing Access Sites	3	5	-	-	-	1	2
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only (miles)	4	14	-	-	-	1	3
Trails: Biking/Ped, Paved (miles)	1	2	-	-	-	2	-
Trails: Biking/Ped, Unpaved (miles)	5	113	-	-	-	2	2
Trails: Horse/Hiking (miles)	2	59	2	-	-	-	-
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed (miles)	2	54	1	-	-	-	-
Trails: OHV (miles)	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed (miles)	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	10	204	8	-	-	1	-
Campgrounds: spaces w/ HU	17	619	16	-	-	-	-
Campgrounds: Spaces w/o HU	12	233	11	-	-	1	1
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	13	23	12	-	-	-	-
Hunting Lands, Public (acres)	1	1,000	2	-	-	-	-
Shooting/Archery Range	10	17	3	-	3	2	1
Downhill Ski Areas (acres)	4	8	4	-	-	-	-
Sledding/Tubing Hills	2	2	1	-	-	-	2

courts. A few clubs own parks, skating facilities, and shooting or archery ranges (e.g., gun clubs). Other nonprofit organizations are most likely to own golf courses, horse-related facilities, sports courts and trails. A few “other” organizations own running tracks, playgrounds, swimming pools and trails.

The data do show more than 600 acres of privately owned parks, 1,100 private campground and RV spaces, 70 golf courses, and nearly 250 miles of trails that are open to the public in the limited number of cities and counties that reported the information.

2.5 Condition of Public Facilities

Overall Public Facility Condition Ratings

Facility managers were asked to rate the condition of their existing facilities in each category on a scale of 1 (Excellent) to 5 (Very Poor). Table 2.5 summarizes the statewide facility condition ratings, based on the opinions of facility managers who participated in the survey. Facilities in the poorest condition are listed first (based on mean score) and facilities in better condition are listed last.

Facilities in poorest condition are fairgrounds, tennis courts, off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails, horse and hiking trails, and swimming pools. One-third of swimming pools are in poor or very poor condition, as well as nearly half of tennis courts.

Facilities in the best condition are paved bike and pedestrian trails, climbing walls and golf courses. Only 5% of river boat ramps are listed as being in poor condition, and 90% of paved trails are in good or excellent condition. Two-thirds of existing playgrounds are listed in good or excellent condition.

In the next chapter, consumer data reveal that facilities in highest demand are swimming pools, biking and walking trails, fishing facilities, skate parks, ball fields, basketball courts, and camper and RV spaces without hookups. The fact that significant percentages of these facilities are in poor condition is a key issue.

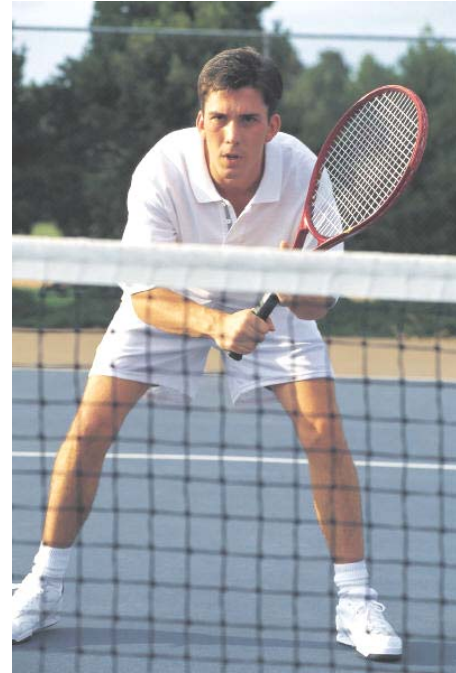
Note that, overall, none of the facility types received an overall mean score of 4.00 (Poor) or 5.00 (Very Poor), indicating a range of facility conditions from Excellent to Poor statewide.

Table 2.5: Condition of All Participants' Facilities Ranked by Mean Score

Facility Type	Total Quantity	Condition (% of Respondents)					MEAN
		1 = Excell't	2 = Good	3 = Fair	4 = Poor	5 = V Poor	
Fairgrounds	8	0%	0%	88%	13%	0%	3.13
Tennis Courts	172	25%	16%	14%	25%	21%	3.02
Trails: OHV/Roads (miles)	4,105	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	3.00
Trails: Horse/hiking (miles)	16,939	0%	15%	82%	3%	0%	2.88
Swimming Pools/Water Parks	36	10%	40%	20%	13%	17%	2.87
Ice Skating Rinks	36	11%	11%	63%	16%	0%	2.84
Shooting/Archery Range	18	0%	40%	50%	10%	0%	2.70
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	15	9%	36%	36%	18%	0%	2.64
Basketball Court	207	15%	34%	31%	14%	6%	2.63
Sledding/Tubing Hills (acres)	48	13%	38%	38%	0%	13%	2.63
Skate Parks	7	29%	29%	14%	14%	14%	2.57
Campgrounds: Spaces w/out HU	5,646	2%	49%	48%	2%	0%	2.49
Baseball Fields	212	15%	44%	23%	13%	5%	2.49
Softball Fields	126	10%	45%	36%	7%	2%	2.48
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only (miles)	3,645	14%	31%	49%	6%	0%	2.47
Track, Running	52	27%	22%	36%	9%	7%	2.47
Boat Docks	119	8%	49%	32%	11%	0%	2.46
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, River	176	10%	40%	45%	5%	0%	2.45
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed (miles)	5,594	0%	71%	21%	0%	7%	2.43
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	2,113	5%	51%	44%	0%	0%	2.40
Fishing Access Sites	654	4%	60%	31%	4%	0%	2.35
Picnic Areas	581	10%	50%	38%	2%	1%	2.34
Roller Skating Rinks	3	33%	0%	67%	0%	0%	2.33
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, Lake	159	10%	56%	29%	6%	0%	2.31
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	32	9%	61%	22%	9%	0%	2.30
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpaved (miles)	589	15%	45%	35%	5%	0%	2.30
Soccer Fields	82	25%	36%	25%	14%	0%	2.29
Volleyball Courts	68	13%	47%	41%	0%	0%	2.28
Parks / Open Space (acres)	27,697,566	9%	62%	23%	6%	0%	2.27
Swimming Beaches	26	7%	60%	33%	0%	0%	2.27
Hunting Lands, Public (acres)	19,776,741	5%	74%	18%	2%	2%	2.21
Playgrounds	292	27%	39%	25%	5%	3%	2.19
Campgrounds: Spaces w/ HU	329	27%	36%	27%	9%	0%	2.18
Downhill Ski Areas (acres)	1,206	0%	88%	13%	0%	0%	2.13
Football Fields	83	25%	50%	15%	8%	2%	2.13
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed (miles)	565	11%	67%	22%	0%	0%	2.11
Fitness Courses	15	36%	36%	18%	0%	9%	2.09
Lakes (acres)	463,910	18%	62%	18%	3%	0%	2.06
Golf Courses	12	55%	18%	9%	9%	9%	2.00
Climbing Areas/Walls	7	40%	40%	20%	0%	0%	1.80
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved (miles)	127	40%	50%	5%	0%	5%	1.80

Table 2.6: Condition of Local Facilities by Mean Score

Facility Type	Local Facility Quantity	Number of Survey Participants	Mean
Fairgrounds	8	8	3.13
Tennis Courts	172	43	3.04
Swimming Pools/Water Parks	35	26	2.89
Trails: Horse/hiking (miles)	36	6	2.83
Hunting Lands, Public (acres)	41	6	2.83
Ice Skating Rinks	35	17	2.82
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	15	11	2.64
Basketball Courts	204	66	2.63
Sledding/Tubing Hills	48	8	2.63
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, Lake	6	5	2.60
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	175	5	2.60
Shooting/Archery Range	12	5	2.60
Campground/RV: Spaces w/out HU	374	7	2.57
Fishing Access Sites	26	14	2.50
Campground/RV: Spaces w/ HU	122	4	2.50
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	12	10	2.50
Track, Running	52	45	2.47
Softball Fields	123	39	2.44
Lakes (acres)	65,268	7	2.43
Baseball Fields	212	37	2.41
Skate Parks	6	5	2.40
Roller Skating Rinks	3	3	2.33
Swimming Beaches	8	4	2.25
Parks / Open Space (acres)	22,130	62	2.24
Picnic Areas	262	50	2.24
Soccer Fields	82	27	2.22
Volleyball Courts	65	28	2.21
Playgrounds	282	82	2.19
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, River	7	6	2.17
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only (miles)	75	12	2.17
Fitness Courses	15	11	2.09
Football Fields	83	46	2.04
Boat Docks	5	3	2.00
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpaved (miles)	124	9	2.00
Climbing Areas/Walls	7	5	1.80
Golf Courses	12	10	1.70
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved (miles)	80	15	1.53
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed (miles)	6	2	1.50
Trails: OHV/Roads (miles)	0	0	-
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed (miles)	0	0	-
Downhill Ski Areas (acres)	0	0	-



Local Public Facility Condition Ratings

Table 2.6 shows condition ratings of public facilities owned by participating local entities (cities, counties, school districts, park districts, tribes), after responses from state and federal agencies were filtered out. Facilities in poorest condition are listed first (based on mean score) and facilities in better condition are listed last (5=Very Poor, 4=Poor, 3=Fair, 2=Good, 1=Excellent).

In comparison to Table 2.5 on the previous page, some types of facilities owned by participating local entities are rated in poorer condition than the

statewide results, such as public hunting lands, lake boat ramps, campgrounds and dump stations, fishing access sites and lakes. Other types of local facilities were rated in better condition than the statewide results, such as walking or hiking trails, skate parks, boat docks, and river boat ramps.

Due to the low survey response rate from cities and counties, these results are only a sampling of local entities, and the condition ratings are based on the facility managers' opinions or perceptions. The results may not be representative of the actual relative conditions of all local facilities statewide.

2.6 Public Facility Needs

Overall Public Facility Needs

The second survey question asked participants to identify their outdoor recreation facility needs, and to rate those needs on a scale of 1 to 5 (1= Low Priority Need, 5= High Priority Need), based on their opinion and experience. Table 2.7 summarizes the overall public outdoor recreation

Table 2.7: Statewide Facility Needs of Participants Ranked by Mean Score

Facility Type	Type of Need (% of Respd'ts)			Priority of Need (% of Respd'ts)					Mean
	Land Acquis'n	New Constr'n	Upgrade/Repair	1 = Low	2	3	4	5 = High	
Hunting Lands, Public (acres)	5%	2%	5%	6%	0%	0%	35%	59%	4.41
Swimming Pools/Water Parks	2%	9%	6%	3%	0%	13%	30%	53%	4.30
Softball Fields	3%	9%	9%	6%	6%	24%	18%	47%	3.94
Fishing Access Sites	11%	16%	14%	4%	9%	17%	30%	40%	3.94
Fairgrounds	0%	1%	3%	13%	0%	25%	13%	50%	3.88
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed (miles)	0%	1%	5%	9%	0%	18%	45%	27%	3.82
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, River	8%	12%	11%	6%	3%	25%	42%	25%	3.78
Parks / Open Space (acres)*	10%	15%	21%	7%	7%	17%	47%	23%	3.73
Soccer Fields	3%	6%	5%	4%	22%	17%	17%	39%	3.65
Boat Docks	2%	8%	12%	8%	11%	19%	35%	27%	3.62
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, Lake	5%	5%	14%	11%	11%	19%	27%	32%	3.59
Trails: Horse/hiking (miles)	0%	4%	12%	6%	6%	18%	65%	6%	3.59
Campgrounds: Spaces w/out HU	8%	13%	21%	6%	6%	22%	59%	8%	3.57
Baseball Fields	2%	6%	6%	7%	11%	37%	7%	37%	3.56
Skate Parks	4%	9%	1%	9%	18%	9%	36%	27%	3.55
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	5%	9%	19%	9%	2%	23%	57%	9%	3.55
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved (miles)	4%	14%	3%	6%	14%	29%	23%	29%	3.54
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only (miles)	5%	17%	16%	8%	6%	29%	44%	13%	3.48
Football Fields	1%	3%	8%	17%	13%	17%	13%	39%	3.43
Lakes (acres)	4%	5%	8%	10%	19%	19%	24%	29%	3.43
Playgrounds	1%	9%	16%	16%	10%	25%	18%	31%	3.39
Track, Running	0%	3%	9%	20%	12%	16%	16%	36%	3.36
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpaved (miles)	5%	14%	10%	8%	18%	28%	28%	20%	3.35
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	0%	6%	4%	11%	21%	21%	21%	26%	3.32
Picnic Areas	3%	11%	32%	8%	14%	26%	44%	8%	3.30
Trails: OHV/Roads (miles)	0%	0%	1%	25%	0%	25%	25%	25%	3.25
Tennis Courts	1%	5%	11%	14%	14%	26%	26%	20%	3.23
Basketball Courts	1%	5%	14%	11%	27%	27%	8%	27%	3.14
Volleyball Courts	1%	6%	5%	13%	13%	35%	26%	13%	3.13
Sledding/Tubing Hills	1%	1%	1%	20%	0%	40%	40%	0%	3.00
Fitness Courses	0%	5%	3%	28%	11%	28%	17%	17%	2.83
Golf Courses	1%	3%	1%	20%	20%	30%	20%	10%	2.80
Swimming Beaches	1%	2%	3%	25%	25%	17%	17%	17%	2.75
Campgrounds: Spaces w/ HU	0%	2%	1%	29%	29%	0%	29%	14%	2.71
Shooting/Archery Range	1%	2%	2%	33%	11%	22%	22%	11%	2.67
Ice Skating Rinks	1%	5%	2%	24%	18%	41%	12%	6%	2.59
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	0%	0%	3%	38%	0%	38%	25%	0%	2.50
Roller Skating Rinks	0%	1%	1%	40%	20%	20%	0%	20%	2.40
Climbing Areas/Walls	0%	5%	0%	18%	27%	55%	0%	0%	2.36
Downhill Ski Areas (acres)	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%	50%	0%	0%	2.00
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed (miles)	0%	2%	0%	60%	0%	40%	0%	0%	1.80

facility needs.

Three categories of need were offered: Land Acquisition, New Construction, and Upgrade/Repair.

Managers could select any or all of the three as appropriate in each facility category. Facilities with the highest priority needs are shown first and the lowest priority needs are listed last, based on the overall mean score.

When asked about the type of need, there were more responses for "Upgrade/Repair" to existing facilities (705 responses) than for "New Construction" (558 responses) or "Land Acquisition" (225 responses).

Facilities most needing upgrades

and repairs are picnic areas, campgrounds without hookups, parks, campgrounds with tent spaces, playgrounds, walking and hiking trails, fishing access sites, basketball courts, boat ramps, horse trails, boat docks and tennis courts.

Facilities most in need of land acquisition are fishing access sites, parks and open space, campgrounds without hookups and river boat ramps. Facilities most in need of new construction are walking and hiking trails, fishing access sites, parks and open space, bike and pedestrian facilities, river boat ramps, campgrounds without hookups, picnic areas, swimming pools, softball fields, skate parks, tent campgrounds and playgrounds.

Top priority needs (based on overall mean scores) are access to hunting lands, swimming pools, softball fields, fishing access sites, fairgrounds, snowmobile trails, boat ramps and docks, parks and open space, and soccer fields. The fact that hunting lands topped the list is interesting. The “high need” ratings for hunting lands came primarily from state facility managers, and was not indicated as a high priority among local or federal managers.

Public Facility Needs by Region

Table 2.8 compares the outdoor recreation facility needs ratings by region. Fishing and boating facilities are high priorities in regions 1 and 4. Ball fields are needed in regions 3 and 5. Swimming pools are listed in the top six priorities in all regions except 6, and skate parks are high priorities in regions 2, 3 and 6. Walking, hiking, and biking trails are most needed in region 1, 4 and 6, while motorized trails are a priority in Regions 2 and 4. Undeveloped camping (tent spaces, no hookups) is needed in Regions 1, 2, 3 and 7. Parks and open space facilities are most needed in Regions 1, 3 and 4, though they appear in the top third of the list in all regions except Region 6. Hunting lands appear near the top of the list in Regions 2, 4, 5 and 6.

Local Public Facility Needs

Table 2.9 summarizes the public facility needs reported by local entities after state and federal agency responses were filtered out.

The stronger emphasis on need for urban (community-based) facilities is predictable, based on mean scores. Compared to the statewide results, land acquisition is not reported to be nearly as strong of a need for local entities as upgrades or repairs, or new construction, which were cited equally.

Ranked by mean scores, swimming pools, ball fields, playgrounds and urban (paved) trails were the top priority needs, followed by play courts, parks and open space and running tracks.

Based on the percentage of local facility managers who rated each facility type as a high priority need (score of 4 or 5), the highest priority needs are for swimming pools (72% rated this facility type as a 4 or 5), softball fields (60%), soccer fields (52%), paved bike and pedestrian trails (50%), playgrounds (49%), parks and open space (49%), tennis courts (46%), running tracks (46%), football fields (43%), walking and hiking trails (43%), skate parks (42%), unpaved bike and pedestrian trails (42%), basketball courts (38%), baseball fields (37%) and RV dump stations (36%). These results likely are reflective of the high turnout of school district participants in the survey, because many of the most needed facility types typically are affiliated with schools.

Note in Table 2.9 that 83% of local participants cited hunting lands as a “low” priority, but 17% (nearly one-in-five) listed hunting lands as a “high” priority. There appears to be some polarization about the need for public hunting lands among local recreation facility managers--most likely depending on the region of the state in which they are located. Priority ratings of lakes were similar.

Table 2.8: Comparison of Facility Needs by Region

Region 1	#	Mean	Region 2	#	Mean	Region 3	#	Mean	Region 4	#	Mean	Region 5	#	Mean	Region 6	#	Mean	Region 7	#	Mean
Boat Rmps, Lak	5	4.40	Swim Pools	2	5.00	Camp w/o HU	7	5.86	Trls: Bik/Ped-P	2	4.50	Softball Fields	5	4.80	Trls: Bik/Ped-U	1	5.00	Laks (acres)	2	5.00
Laks (acres)	3	4.33	Trls: OHV	1	5.00	Softball Fields	6	5.00	Trls: Snowmobl	3	4.33	Baseball Fields	4	4.75	Hunting Lands	1	5.00	Camp w/ HU	1	5.00
Fish'g Access	7	4.14	Hunting Lands	6	4.83	Soccer Fields	3	5.00	Boat Rmps, Lak	7	4.29	Soccer Fields	4	4.50	Skate Parks	4	4.50	RV Dump Stn	1	5.00
Boat Docks	10	4.10	Fish'g Access	8	4.50	Fairgrounds	2	5.00	Boat Docks	7	4.29	Swim Pools	6	4.00	Playgrounds	4	4.00	Swim Pools	7	4.57
Swim Pools	5	4.00	Trls: Snowmobl	4	4.50	Skate Parks	2	4.50	Swim Pools	5	4.20	Football Fields	4	4.00	Trls: Bik/Ped-P	3	4.00	Swim Beaches	2	4.50
Track, Running	3	4.00	Skate Parks	2	4.50	Swim Pools	2	4.50	Laks (acres)	5	4.20	Hunting Lands	4	4.00	Ice Skate Rinks	1	4.00	Track, Running	3	4.00
Boat Rmps, Riv	9	3.89	Boat Rmps, Riv	6	4.33	Tennis Courts	3	4.33	Trls: Horse/Hike	5	4.20	Sled/Tube Hill	2	4.00	Shoot/Arch Rng	1	4.00	Football Fields	3	3.67
Camp w/o HU	9	3.78	Playgrounds	7	4.00	Parks/Open Spc	10	4.30	Hunting Lands	5	4.20	B-ball Courts	5	3.60	Fish'g Access	8	3.63	Roll Skate Rink	2	3.50
Parks/Open Spc	11	3.73	Camp: Tent	7	4.00	Boat Docks	4	4.25	Parks/Open Spc	9	4.00	Playgrounds	6	3.50	Picnic Areas	5	3.60	Fairgrounds	2	3.50
Trls: Walk/Hike	12	3.67	Track, Running	5	4.00	Trls: Bik/Ped-P	7	4.14	Boat Rmps, Riv	4	4.00	Fish'g Access	6	3.50	Golf Course	2	3.50	V-ball Courts	2	3.50
Trls: Bik/Ped-U	10	3.50	Tennis Courts	3	4.00	Fish'g Access	10	4.00	Trls: Walk/Hike	4	4.00	Parks/Open Spc	8	3.25	Tennis Courts	7	3.43	Boat Rmps, Lak	2	3.50
Camp: Tent	8	3.50	Football Fields	2	4.00	Camp: Tent	8	4.00	Trls: Bik/Ped-U	4	4.00	Trls: Bik/Ped-P	6	3.17	Trls: Walk/Hike	3	3.33	Boat Rmps, Riv	2	3.50
Softball Fields	6	3.50	Camp w/ HU	1	4.00	Baseball Fields	4	4.00	Softball Fields	3	4.00	Trls: Walk/Hike	12	3.08	Camp w/o HU	5	3.20	Fish'g Access	2	3.50
Trls: Horse/Hike	6	3.50	Parks/Open Spc	12	3.83	Boat Rmps, Lak	4	4.00	Skate Parks	1	4.00	Boat Rmps, Riv	5	3.00	Baseball Fields	4	3.00	Camp: Tent	2	3.50
Football Fields	4	3.50	Camp w/o HU	10	3.80	RV Dump Stn	3	4.00	Camp: Tent	10	3.90	Fairgrounds	2	3.00	Softball Fields	4	3.00	Parks/Open Spc	9	3.44
Trls: Snowmobl	2	3.50	Softball Fields	5	3.80	Horse Arenas	2	4.00	Fish'g Access	6	3.83	Trls: Bik/Ped-U	6	2.83	Swim Pools	3	3.00	Picnic Areas	10	3.40
Trls: Bik/Ped-P	10	3.40	Boat Rmps, Lak	9	3.78	Track, Running	2	4.00	RV Dump Stn	5	3.80	Camp: Tent	8	2.75	RV Dump Stn	2	3.00	Fitness Course	3	3.33
Skate Parks	5	3.20	Boat Docks	7	3.71	Hunting Lands	1	4.00	B-ball Courts	4	3.75	Laks (acres)	4	2.75	Fitness Course	1	3.00	Softball Fields	5	3.20
V-ball Courts	5	3.20	Trls: Walk/Hike	15	3.60	B-ball Courts	6	3.83	Camp w/o HU	9	3.67	Trls: Horse/Hike	6	2.67	Fairgrounds	1	3.00	Trls: Bik/Ped-P	4	3.00
Playgrounds	11	3.18	Baseball Fields	4	3.50	Trls: Bik/Ped-U	6	3.83	Track, Running	5	3.60	Skate Parks	3	2.67	Horse Arenas	1	3.00	Tennis Courts	6	3.00
Baseball Fields	4	3.00	RV Dump Stn	2	3.50	Boat Rmps, Riv	9	3.78	Picnic Areas	12	3.58	Camp w/o HU	8	2.63	Boat Rmps, Riv	1	3.00	Trls: Walk/Hike	5	3.00
Swim Beaches	3	3.00	Picnic Areas	14	3.36	Trls: Horse/Hike	8	3.75	Baseball Fields	4	3.50	Boat Rmps, Lak	7	2.57	Football Fields	4	2.75	Baseball Fields	3	3.00
Picnic Areas	17	2.94	V-ball Courts	4	3.25	Picnic Areas	14	3.64	Soccer Fields	2	3.50	Tennis Courts	4	2.50	Camp: Tent	4	2.75	Camp w/o HU	3	3.00
Tennis Courts	8	2.88	Trls: Bik/Ped-U	9	3.11	Trls: Walk/Hike	12	3.50	Playgrounds	5	3.40	V-ball Courts	3	2.33	B-ball Courts	7	2.71	Boat Docks	2	3.00
B-ball Courts	7	2.71	Trls: Bik/Ped-P	3	3.00	Football Fields	4	3.50	V-ball Courts	3	3.33	Picnic Areas	5	2.20	Soccer Fields	4	2.50	Ice Skate Rinks	1	3.00
RV Dump Stn	5	2.60	Ice Skate Rinks	1	3.00	V-ball Courts	4	3.50	Tennis Courts	4	3.25	Boat Docks	4	2.00	V-ball Courts	2	2.50	Horse Arenas	1	3.00
Climbing Walls	2	2.50	Climbing Walls	1	3.00	Trls: OHV	2	3.50	Shoot/Arch Rng	3	3.00	Ice Skate Rinks	3	2.00	Track, Running	5	2.40	Playgrounds	7	2.86
Ice Skate Rinks	5	2.40	Fairgrounds	1	3.00	Sled/Tube Hill	2	3.50	Roll Skate Rink	1	3.00	Golf Course	3	2.00	Boat Rmps, Lak	3	2.00	Skate Parks	5	2.80
Fitness Course	5	2.40	Trls: Horse/Hike	9	2.89	Fitness Course	7	3.43	Ice Skate Rinks	2	2.50	Shoot/Arch Rng	2	2.00	Boat Docks	3	2.00	B-ball Courts	5	2.80
Camp w/ HU	3	2.33	B-ball Courts	3	2.67	Playgrounds	11	3.27	Football Fields	2	2.50	Horse Arenas	3	1.67	Climbing Walls	1	2.00	Trls: Bik/Ped-U	4	2.50
Shoot/Arch Rng	3	2.33	Laks (acres)	5	2.40	Golf Course	4	3.25	Horse Arenas	1	1.00	Roll Skate Rink	2	1.00	Camp w/ HU	1	2.00	Climbing Walls	2	2.50
Soccer Fields	4	1.00	Swim Beaches	2	2.00	Climbing Walls	3	3.00	Golf Course	-	-	Fitness Course	2	1.00	Parks/Open Spc	1	1.00	Soccer Fields	2	2.50
Roll Skate Rink	-	-	Soccer Fields	4	1.00	Swim Beaches	3	3.00	Fitness Course	-	-	Climbing Walls	2	1.00	Roll Skate Rink	-	-	Golf Course	1	2.00
Golf Course	-	-	Fitness Course	-	-	Trls: XC, Grmd	2	3.00	Climbing Walls	-	-	Track, Running	2	1.00	Laks (acres)	-	-	Trls: Horse/Hike	-	-
Fairgrounds	-	-	Roll Skate Rink	-	-	Trls: Snowmobl	1	3.00	Fairgrounds	-	-	Swim Beaches	2	1.00	Swim Beaches	-	-	Trls: XC, Grmd	-	-
Horse Arenas	-	-	Golf Course	-	-	Dwnhl Ski Area	1	3.00	Swim Beaches	-	-	Trls: XC, Grmd	2	1.00	Trls: Horse/Hike	-	-	Trls: OHV	-	-
Trls: XC, Grmd	-	-	Horse Arenas	-	-	Ice Skate Rinks	4	2.75	Trls: XC, Grmd	-	-	Trls: OHV	1	1.00	Trls: XC, Grmd	-	-	Trls: Snowmobl	-	-
Trls: OHV	-	-	Trls: XC, Grmd	-	-	Laks (acres)	2	2.50	Trls: OHV	-	-	Trls: Snowmobl	1	1.00	Trls: OHV	-	-	Hunting Lands	-	-
Hunting Lands	-	-	Shoot/Arch Rng	-	-	Roll Skate Rink	-	-	Camp w/ HU	-	-	Camp w/ HU	1	1.00	Trls: Snowmobl	-	-	Shoot/Arch Rng	-	-
Dwnhl Ski Area	-	-	Dwnhl Ski Area	-	-	Camp w/ HU	-	-	Dwnhl Ski Area	-	-	RV Dump Stn	1	1.00	Dwnhl Ski Area	-	-	Dwnhl Ski Area	-	-
Sled/Tube Hill	-	-	Sled/Tube Hill	-	-	Shoot/Arch Rng	-	-	Sled/Tube Hill	-	-	Dwnhl Ski Area	1	1.00	Sled/Tube Hill	-	-	Sled/Tube Hill	-	-

Local Public Facility Needs

Table 2.9 summarizes the public facility needs reported by local entities after state and federal agency responses were filtered out.

The stronger emphasis on need for urban (community-based) facilities is predictable, based on mean scores. Compared to the statewide results, land acquisition is not reported to be nearly as strong of a need for local entities as upgrades or repairs, or new construction, which were cited equally. Ranked by mean scores, swimming pools, ball fields, playgrounds and urban (paved) trails were the top priority needs, followed by play courts, parks and open space and running tracks.

Based on the percentage of local facility managers who rated each facility type as a high priority need (score of 4 or 5), the highest priority needs are for swimming pools (72% rated this facility type as a 4 or 5), softball fields (60%), soccer fields (52%), paved bike and pedestrian trails (50%), playgrounds (49%), parks and open space (49%), tennis courts (46%), running tracks (46%), football fields (43%), walking and hiking trails (43%), skate parks (42%), unpaved bike and pedestrian trails (42%), basketball courts (38%), baseball fields (37%) and RV dump stations (36%). These results likely are reflective of the high turnout of school district participants in the survey, because many of the most needed facility types typically are affiliated with schools.

Table 2.9: Local Participants' Facility Needs & Priorities

Facility Type	Type of Need			Priority of Need					Mean
	Land Acq'n	New Constr'n	Upgrade/Repair	1 = Low	2	3	4	5 = High	
Swimming Pools	2%	9%	7%	15%	0%	12%	24%	48%	3.91
Softball Fields	3%	9%	8%	12%	6%	21%	18%	42%	3.73
Playgrounds	1%	6%	15%	13%	11%	27%	16%	33%	3.44
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved	3%	12%	0%	13%	10%	27%	20%	30%	3.43
Soccer Fields	3%	6%	5%	16%	16%	16%	20%	32%	3.36
Basketball Courts	1%	5%	13%	11%	26%	26%	9%	29%	3.17
Tennis Courts	1%	5%	11%	17%	14%	23%	26%	20%	3.17
Parks / Open Space	4%	6%	10%	24%	8%	19%	27%	22%	3.14
Track, Running	0%	3%	9%	29%	11%	14%	14%	32%	3.11
Baseball Fields	2%	6%	6%	25%	9%	28%	6%	31%	3.09
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpaved	1%	9%	2%	21%	17%	21%	21%	21%	3.04
Football Fields	1%	2%	8%	31%	12%	15%	12%	31%	3.00
Trails: Walking/Hiking Only	3%	10%	2%	30%	7%	20%	30%	13%	2.90
Volleyball Courts	1%	6%	5%	21%	13%	33%	25%	8%	2.88
Skate Parks	1%	6%	0%	33%	21%	4%	21%	21%	2.75
Picnic Areas	0%	5%	13%	26%	21%	21%	23%	10%	2.72
Fitness Courses	0%	5%	2%	40%	10%	20%	15%	15%	2.55
Campgrounds: RV Dump Stations	0%	2%	1%	45%	18%	0%	9%	27%	2.55
Fairgrounds	0%	1%	3%	57%	0%	14%	7%	21%	2.36
Fishing Access Sites	0%	2%	2%	43%	21%	14%	0%	21%	2.36
Swimming Beaches	0%	1%	1%	50%	0%	25%	17%	8%	2.33
Campgrounds: Spaces w/out HU	0%	2%	1%	50%	10%	10%	20%	10%	2.30
Ice Skating Rinks	1%	5%	2%	43%	13%	30%	9%	4%	2.17
Golf Courses	1%	3%	1%	50%	13%	19%	13%	6%	2.13
Lakes	0%	0%	1%	70%	0%	10%	0%	20%	2.00
Sledding/Tubing Hills	1%	1%	1%	60%	0%	20%	20%	0%	2.00
Boat Docks	0%	1%	0%	73%	0%	0%	18%	9%	1.91
Trails: Horse/hiking	0%	2%	1%	55%	18%	9%	18%	0%	1.91
Campgrounds: Spaces w/ HU	0%	1%	1%	67%	11%	0%	11%	11%	1.89
Shooting/Archery Range	0%	1%	1%	60%	10%	20%	10%	0%	1.80
Climbing Areas/Walls	0%	4%	0%	56%	11%	33%	0%	0%	1.78
Campgrounds: Tent Spaces	0%	1%	1%	67%	0%	22%	11%	0%	1.78
Roller Skating Rinks	0%	1%	1%	69%	8%	15%	0%	8%	1.69
Hunting Lands, Public	0%	0%	0%	83%	0%	0%	0%	17%	1.67
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	0%	0%	3%	71%	0%	21%	7%	0%	1.64
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, River	0%	1%	0%	70%	0%	30%	0%	0%	1.60
Boat Ramps/Launch Sites, Lake	0%	1%	1%	88%	0%	0%	13%	0%	1.38
Trails: XC Ski, Groomed	0%	1%	0%	86%	0%	14%	0%	0%	1.29
Downhill Ski Areas	0%	0%	0%	86%	0%	14%	0%	0%	1.29
Trails: OHV/Roads	0%	0%	0%	86%	14%	0%	0%	0%	1.14
Trails: Snowmobile, Groomed	0%	0%	0%	86%	14%	0%	0%	0%	1.14
Total Number of Responses	78	298	297	276	84	150	121	156	

Note in Table 2.9 that 83% of local participants cited hunting lands as a “low” priority, but 17% (nearly one-in-five) listed hunting lands as a “high” priority. There appears to be some polarization about the need for public hunting lands among local recreation facility managers--most likely depending on the region of the state in which they are located. Priority ratings of lakes were similar.

Comparison of Local vs. State vs. Federal Facility Needs

Table 2.10 provides a comparison of the top priority needs (based on mean scores) of local, state and federal survey participants. Not surprisingly, the top priority needs of local entities are urban, or community-based facilities such as swimming pools, ball fields, fairgrounds, bike and pedestrian trails, parks, playgrounds and skate parks. The top needs of state and federal agencies are more rural recreation facilities, such as hunting and fishing facilities, trails, boating and camping facilities. State agencies expressed a greater need for hunting lands and groomed snowmobile trails, while federal agencies expressed a greater need for boat ramps, backcountry trails (horse/hiking) and undeveloped camping facilities. The fourteen state agency participants gave high need ratings to hunting lands, which affected the overall ratings.

Table 2.10: Comparison of Local vs. State vs. Federal Participants' Facility Needs

Local Facility Type	#	Mean	State Facility Type	#	Mean	Federal Facility Type	#	Mean	Overall Facility Type	#	Mean
Swimming Pools	30	4.30	Hunting Lands, Public	14	4.57	Boat Ramps, River	6	4.50	Hunting Lands, Public	17	4.41
Softball Fields	32	4.00	Fishing Access Sites	30	4.23	Fishing Access Sites	6	4.17	Swimming Pools	30	4.30
Fairgrounds	8	3.88	Trails: Snowmob, Groom'd	9	4.22	Boat Ramps, Lake	16	3.94	Fishing Access Sites	47	3.94
Soccer Fields	22	3.77	Parks/Open Space	29	3.97	Trails: Horse/hiking	25	3.88	Softball Fields	34	3.94
Baseball Fields	26	3.65	Boat Ramps, River	25	3.92	Campgrd: RV w/o HU	25	3.76	Fairgrounds	8	3.88
Trails: Bike/Ped, Pav'd	29	3.62	Boat Docks	15	3.80	Trails: Walk'g/Hik'g Only	21	3.76	Trails: Snowmob, Groom'd	11	3.82
Parks/Open Space	30	3.60	Trails: Bike/Ped, Pav'd	4	3.75	Campgrds: Tent	25	3.72	Boat Ramps, River	36	3.78
Playgrounds	44	3.57	Skate Parks	7	3.71	Boat Docks	17	3.65	Parks/Open Space	60	3.73
Skate Parks	15	3.47	Shooting/Archery Ranges	3	3.67	Picnic Areas	21	3.62	Soccer Fields	23	3.65
Campgrds: RV Dump Stn	7	3.43	Boat Ramps, Lake	18	3.56	Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpav'd	5	3.60	Boat Docks	37	3.62
Football Fields	23	3.43	Lakes	16	3.56	Campgrds: RV Dump Stn	6	3.17	Boat Ramps, Lake	37	3.59
Track, Running	25	3.36	Campgrds: Tent	18	3.50	Trails: OHV/Roads	2	4.50	Trails: Horse/hiking	34	3.59
Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpav'd	22	3.32	Campgrd: RV w/o HU	20	3.45	Swimming Beaches	2	2.00	Campgrd: RV w/o HU	51	3.57
Trails: Walk'g/Hik'g Only	26	3.30	Picnic Areas	21	3.38	Trails: Bike/Ped, Pav'd	2	2.00	Baseball Fields	27	3.56
Swimming Beaches	8	3.25	Trails: Walk'g/Hik'g Only	16	3.38	Hunting Lands, Public	1	5.00	Campgrds: Tent	47	3.55
Basketball Courts	35	3.23	Campgrds: RV Dump Stn	6	3.33	Playgrounds	1	3.00	Skate Parks	22	3.55
Tennis Courts	35	3.23	Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpav'd	13	3.31	Baseball Fields	1	1.00	Trails: Bike/Ped, Pav'd	35	3.54
Campgrd: RV w/o HU	6	3.17	Trails: Horse/hiking	2	3.00	Basketball Courts	1	1.00	Trails: Walk'g/Hik'g Only	63	3.48
Volleyball Courts	21	3.14	Campgrd: RV w/ HU	3	2.33	Fitness Courses	1	1.00	Football Fields	23	3.43
Fitness Courses	16	3.06	Playgrounds	6	2.17	Parks/Open Space	1	1.00	Lakes	21	3.43
Picnic Areas	35	3.06	Swimming Beaches	2	1.50	Shooting/Archery Ranges	1	1.00	Playgrounds	51	3.39
Boat Docks	5	3.00	Softball Fields	1	5.00	Soccer Fields	1	1.00	Track, Running	25	3.36
Campgrd: RV w/ HU	4	3.00	Volleyball Courts	1	5.00	Softball Fields	1	1.00	Trails: Bike/Ped, Unpav'd	40	3.35
Fishing Access Sites	11	3.00	Basketball Courts	1	2.00	Trails: XC Ski, Groom'd	1	1.00	Campgrds: RV Dump Stn	19	3.32
Lakes	5	3.00	Fitness Courses	1	1.00	Volleyball Courts	1	1.00	Picnic Areas	77	3.30
Sledding/Tubing Hills	5	3.00	Ice Skating Rinks	1	1.00	Campgrd: RV w/ HU	0		Trails: OHV/Roads	4	3.25
Golf Courses	10	2.80	Baseball Fields	0		Climbing Areas/Walls	0		Tennis Courts	35	3.23
Campgrds: Tent	4	2.75	Climbing Areas/Walls	0		Downhill Ski Areas	0		Basketball Courts	37	3.14
Trails: Horse/hiking	7	2.71	Downhill Ski Areas	0		Fairgrounds	0		Volleyball Courts	23	3.13
Ice Skating Rinks	16	2.69	Fairgrounds	0		Football Fields	0		Sledding/Tubing Hills	5	3.00
Horse/Rodeo Arenas	8	2.50	Football Fields	0		Golf Courses	0		Fitness Courses	18	2.83
Roller Skating Rinks	5	2.40	Golf Courses	0		Horse/Rodeo Arenas	0		Golf Courses	10	2.80
Shooting/Archery Ranges	5	2.40	Horse/Rodeo Arenas	0		Ice Skating Rinks	0		Swimming Beaches	12	2.75
Climbing Areas/Walls	11	2.36	Roller Skating Rinks	0		Lakes	0		Campgrd: RV w/ HU	7	2.71
Boat Ramps, River	5	2.20	Sledding/Tubing Hills	0		Roller Skating Rinks	0		Shooting/Archery Ranges	9	2.67
Boat Ramps, Lake	3	2.00	Soccer Fields	0		Skate Parks	0		Ice Skating Rinks	17	2.59
Trails: XC Ski, Groom'd	4	2.00	Swimming Pools	0		Sledding/Tubing Hills	0		Horse/Rodeo Arenas	8	2.50
Hunting Lands, Public	2	3.00	Tennis Courts	0		Swimming Pools	0		Roller Skating Rinks	5	2.40
Trails: OHV/Roads	2	2.00	Track, Running	0		Tennis Courts	0		Climbing Areas/Walls	11	2.36
Trails: Snowmob, Groom'd	2	2.00	Trails: OHV/Roads	0		Track, Running	0		Downhill Ski Areas	2	2.00
Downhill Ski Areas	2	2.00	Trails: XC Ski, Groom'd	0		Trails: Snowmob, Groom'd	0		Trails: XC Ski, Groom'd	5	1.80

= Number of respondents Mean: 5 = High Priority, 1 = Low Priority Facility types with only 1 respondent are listed last because mean is not reflective.

Table 2.11: Facilities Needed to Serve Local Youth

Statewide		Local		State/Fed Agency	
Playgrounds	23	Swim pools/Wtr Parks	22	Education/Interp	19
Swim Pools/Wtr Parks	22	Playgrounds	21	Fishing Access Sites	13
Education/Interp	21	Soccer Fields	16	Parks/Open Space	5
Soccer Fields	16	Softball Fields	16	Trails: Bike/Ped	4
Softball Fields	16	Tennis Courts	13	Playgrounds	2
Tennis Courts	13	Track, Running	12	Swimming Beaches	1
Fishing Access Sites	13	Baseball Fields	9	Boating (not specified)	1
Track, Running	12	Football Fields	9	Camp: Tent Spaces	1
Baseball Fields	9	Basketball Courts	7		
Football Fields	9	Picnic Areas	5		
Parks/Open Space	8	Skate Parks	5		
Trails: Bike/Ped	8	Parks/Open Space	4		
Basketball Courts	7	Trails: Bike/Ped	4		
Picnic Areas	5	Hunting Lands, Public	3		
Skate Parks	5	Trails: Walking/Hiking	3		
Hunting Lands, Public	3	Education/Interp	2		
Trails: Walking/Hiking	3	Restrooms	2		

Facility Needs for Specific Customer Segments

Tables 2.11 through 2.14 list the types of public facilities needed to address the needs of specific customer segments. The responses are listed statewide, and by local, state, and federal agency responses. State and federal agency participants tended to list identical needs for all customer segments.

To serve youth, local managers expressed strong needs for playgrounds, swimming pools, ball fields and tennis courts (Table 2.11). State and federal agency managers reported a need for educational or interpretive facilities and programs, and fishing access sites.

To serve adults, local managers reported a need for swimming pools, bike and pedestrian trails and tennis courts, while agency managers listed fishing access sites as the top need, followed by educational and interpretive facilities, and parks and open space (Table 2.12).

Table 2.12: Facilities Needed to Serve Local Adults

Statewide		Local		State/Fed Agency	
Fishing Access Sites	18	Swim Pools/Wtr Parks	15	Fishing Access Sites	14
Swim Pools/Wtr Parks	16	Trails: Bike/Ped	13	Education/Interp	12
Trails: Bike/Ped	17	Tennis Courts	10	Parks/Open Space	7
Education/Interp	12	Softball Fields	6	Trails: Bike/Ped	4
Parks/Open Space	11	Picnic Areas	6	Trails: Walking/Hiking	2
Tennis Courts	10	Trails: Walking/Hiking	5	Boat Ramps: River	2
Softball Fields	7	Fitns Course/Wlkg Track	5	Boat Ramps: Unspecified	2
Trails: Walking/Hiking	7	Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved	5	Hunting Lands, Public	2
Picnic Areas	6	Fishing Access Sites	4	Softball Fields	1
Fitns Course/Wlkg Track	5	Parks/Open Space	4	Swim Pools/Wtr Parks	1
Hunting Lands, Public	5	Golf Course, Drvg Rge	4	Campgrounds	1
Trails: Bike/Ped, Paved	5	Hunting Lands, Public	3	Skate Parks	1
Golf Course, Drvg Rge	4	Baseball Fields	3	Horse/Rodeo Arenas	1
Baseball Fields	3	Track, Running	3	Lakes	1
Boat Ramps: River	3	Playfields	2	Volleyball Courts	1
Track, Running	3	Soccer Fields	2	Handicap Access	1



To serve mature adults (age 50+), local managers listed bike and pedestrian trails, swimming pools and walking, hiking and fitness trails as the top needs (Table 2.13). Agency managers listed fishing access sites, followed by educational and interpretive activities, and parks and open space.

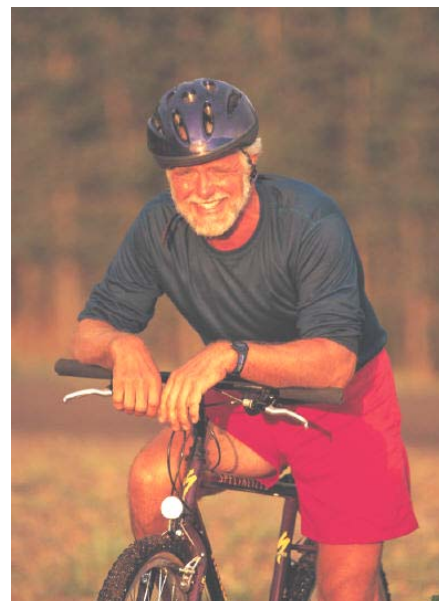
Finally, to serve visitors (tourists), local managers listed swimming pools, picnic areas, and parks and open space as the top needs, while agency managers listed educational and interpretive facilities, fishing access sites, and parks and open space (Table 2.14).

Table 2.13: Facilities Needed to Serve Local Mature Adults

Statewide		Local		State/Fed Agency	
Trails: Bike/Ped	19	Trails: Bike/Ped	14	Fishing Access Sites	14
Fishing Access Sites	16	Swimg Pools/Wtr Parks	10	Education/Interp	10
Parks/Open Space	11	Trails: Walking/Hiking	9	Parks / Open Space	7
Education/Interp	12	Fitns Course/Wlkg Track	8	Trails: Bike/Ped	5
Swimg Pools/Wtr Parks	10	Picnic Areas	5	Boat Ramps unspecified	4
Trails: Walking/Hiking	10	Parks/Open Space	4	Campgrounds	2
Fitns Course/Wlkg Track	8	Tennis Courts	3	Boat Ramps: River	2
Boat Ramps: not specified	5	Fishing Access Sites	2	Handicap Access	2
Picnic Areas	5	Handicap Access	2	Hunting Lands	1
Handicap Access	4	Campgrnd: w/ Hookup	2	Trails: Walking/Hiking	1
Campgrounds	3	Trails: Bike/Ped, paved	2		
Tennis Courts	3	Track, Running	2		
Boat Ramps: River	2	Education/Interp	1		
Campgrnd: w/ Hookup	2	Boat not specified	1		
Trails: Bike/Ped, paved	2	Campgrounds	1		
Track, Running	2	Restrooms	1		

Table 2.14: Facilities Needed to Serve Non-local Visitors/Tourists

Statewide		Local		State/Fed Agency	
Education/Interp	16	Swimg Pools/Wtr Parks	12	Education/Interp	14
Parks/Open Space	12	Picnic Areas	10	Fishing Access Sites	9
Swimg Pools/Wtr Parks	12	Parks/Open Space	5	Parks/Open Space	7
Picnic Areas	11	Trails: Bike/Ped	5	Campgrounds	5
Fishing Access Sites	9	Campgrounds	4	Trails: Bike/Ped	3
Campgrounds	9	Playfields	4	Restrooms	2
Trails: Bike/Ped	8	Restrooms	3	Boat Ramps unspecified	2
Restrooms	5	Fairgrounds	3	Campgrnd: w/ Hookup	2
Boat Ramps unspecified	4	Education/Interp	2	Hunting Lands, Public	2
Playfields	4	Boat Ramps unspecified	2	Picnic Areas	1
Campgrnds: w/ Hookup	3	Baseball Fields	2	Boat: River	1
Fairgrounds	3	Playgrounds	2	Trails: Walking/Hiking	1
Baseball Fields	2	Softball Fields	2		
Boat Ramps: River	2	Tennis Courts	2		





Facility Needs for ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Compliance

One of the survey questions asked about facility needs related to ADA compliance (e.g., which types of facilities need ADA-related improvements, and the specific type of access needed). Table 2.15 summarizes the responses of survey participants who listed ADA-related facility and access needs. The most needed facility type is accessible, ADA-compliant restrooms, followed by facilities related to fishing, picnicking, camping and boating.

ADA Facility Type Needed		Type of ADA Access Needed	
Access to the track area	Other park areas	2nd floor accessibility, a lift	Hard pack and wide
Athletic complex	Outdoor path	Accessible equipment disabled kids.	Hard surface site, tables, fire rings
Baseball fields	Park bathroom facility	Accessible fishing areas	Hard surface to latrines
Bathrooms	Park building	Accessible latrine and access trail	Lift or ramp into pool
Beaches	Park/picnic area	Accessible pads, parking	Means for disabled to access boats
Boat docks	Parking areas	Accessible sidewalks, trails	Means to access water vessels
Boat launch facilities.	Parks/playgrounds	ADA access to the water	New building, parking, sidewalk
Boat ramps/courtesy docks	Paths to facilities	ADA accessible types at sites	New construction, facility
Buildings	Picnic areas/tables	ADA hard surface to latrine entrance	No restrooms at all
Camp facilities	Picnic areas, picnic shelters	Additional hard surface walk ways	Off-street parking, ramps and walks
Campgrounds/sites	Playground	Appropriate sloped ramp	Paved access to scenic vistas
Camping	Playground equipment	Barrier free access and fixtures	Paved parking and access
City park	Public restroom at city park	Barrier free access to play element	Paved surfaces for parking and mobile
Designated campsites	Public restrooms	Bathrooms that meet standards	Paved trails
Elementary school	River access	Camping pads	Paved walkway
Existing group use building.	Sidewalks & parking areas	Campsites, signs, drinking fountain	Physical handicap
Facilities	Soccer field	Complete ADA upgrade	Ramps
Fairgrounds	Softball field	Concrete path and vehicle parking	Renovation required, grips, ramps
Fishing access/sites	Some campgrounds	Concrete trails	Restrooms
Fishing access - river	Some picnic shelters	Curb cuts/ parking spaces	Shower doors, additional railing
Football fields/bleachers	Some playgrounds	Disabled landing sites	Some accessible campsites
Football/track complex	Some restrooms	Dock to allow ADA folk into boats	Surfacing
Fishing access site/lake	Sports complex bathrooms	Docks, trails, signs	Surfacing and equipment
Handicapped hunting blind	Swimming pool	Doorways/new facility	Tables to accommodate wheel chairs
Hiking and interpretive trails	Swimming pool building	Easier for the user to access boats	Trail access
Kiosk w/ info	Tennis/basketball courts	Easy to get to	Universal accessibility
Lake access if feasible	Toilet facilities	Entrance, stalls	Upgraded parking and walks
Lake area (recreation easement)	Trails	Equipment, trail access	Walkways
Mountain hiking trails	Vault toilets	Facilities for handicapped youths	Wheelchair accessible path/surface
Nature trails	Walkways to latrines	Handicap accessibility	Wider doors, ramps, stalls, gates, ramp

Other facility upgrades needed for ADA compliance relate to paths and trails, playgrounds, swimming pools and hunting blinds. The specific type of access that is needed most is wheelchair access, including width and grade improvements. Other responses included replacement of gravel and dirt with paving on parking areas, RV pads, paths for restroom and boat access and bike/pedestrian trails. A sampling of respondents' answers to the ADA question is shown below.

2.7 Estimated Costs to Meet Public Facility Needs

Survey participants were asked to provide estimates of the costs to fulfill their facility needs--excluding land acquisition. Table 2.16 summarizes the responses of all participants, and of local, state and federal participants separately. Individual local needs range from \$300 (to upgrade a picnic facility) to \$14.5 million (for parks/open space). The total amount of money needed to fulfill local participants' needs is \$95.2 million. Individual state facility needs range from \$2,000 (for a boat ramp) to \$100 million (for parks/open space), with a total of \$153 million. Individual federal facility needs range from \$1,000 (for a basketball court) to \$2.8 million (for bike/pedestrian trails), with a sum of \$19.3 million for all federal needs.

Table 2.15: ADA Compliance Needs

ADA Facility Type	# of Responses
ADA Restrooms	26
Fishing Access Sites	19
Parks, Picnic Areas	19
Camping Sites	17
Boat/Lake Ramps	15
ADA Buildings	7
Play Field Paths	6
Paved Bike/Ped Trails	9
Playgrounds	6
Pools	5
Hunting Blinds	1

Type of Access Needed	# of Responses
Wheelchair Access	33
Paved Parking Areas	23
ADA Access: width, grade	20
Paved Campground RV Pads	12
Paved Paths to Restrooms	12
Paved Boat Paths/Ramps	10
ADA Entrance Ramps	5
Paved Bike/Ped Paths	3



Recreation Facility Manager Comments about their Greatest Challenges & Obstacles

"Challenges of the many types of users, and recreational activities of each. Obstacles of limited resources, and overcrowding of the sites."

"Trying to keep up the needs of the visitor and maintaining the sites on limited resources."

"Public demand for recreation programs, sites and facilities continually increases while funding levels remain static or decrease. Securing sufficient funding levels to adequately maintain sites and facilities that are continually receiving increased use."

"Stretching the budget to meet all the needs of the sites, and the visitors"

Table 2.16: Estimated Costs to Fulfill Facility Needs

	All Participants		Local Facility Cost Estimates				State Facility Cost Estimates				Federal Facility Cost Estimates						
	N	SUM	N	Minim \$	Maxim \$	SUM	Mean	N	Minim \$	Maxim \$	SUM	Mean	N	Minim \$	Maxim \$	SUM	Mean
Parks/Open Spc	41	141,696,998	16	2,000	14,500,000	26,951,998	1,684,500	24	5,000	100,000,000	113,745,000	4,739,375	1	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Picnic Areas	61	2,778,800	23	300	150,000	600,800	26,122	18	2,000	250,000	797,000	44,278	20	10,000	500,000	1,381,000	69,050
Skate Parks	17	5,037,500	11	3,000	1,000,000	2,837,500	257,955	6	100,000	600,000	2,200,000	366,667	0				
Ice Skate Rinks	9	7,565,000	8	2,000	7,000,000	7,560,000	945,000	1	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0				
Roll Skate Rinks	2	133,000	2	8,000	125,000	133,000	66,500	0					0				
Golf Courses	4	1,272,000	4	2,000	1,000,000	1,272,000	318,000	0					0				
Fitness Course	10	85,000	9	5,000	20,000	77,000	8,556	0					1	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Climbing Walls	7	89,000	7	2,000	40,000	89,000	12,714	0					0				
Fairgrounds	3	6,260,000	3	85,000	6,000,000	6,260,000	2,086,667	0					0				
Horse Arenas	2	450,000	2	50,000	400,000	450,000	225,000	0					0				
Baseball Fields	15	931,500	14	2,000	450,000	906,500	64,750	0					1	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Softball Fields	21	1,707,778	20	1,000	900,000	1,682,778	84,139	0					1	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Football Fields	16	1,517,000	16	1,500	750,000	1,517,000	94,813	0					0				
Soccer Fields	17	1,146,000	16	500	650,000	1,121,000	70,063	0					1	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Track, Running	18	1,296,500	18	1,000	250,000	1,296,500	72,028	0					0				
V-ball Courts	14	387,500	13	500	200,000	377,500	29,038	0					1	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
B-ball Courts	29	3,163,800	28	1,000	2,500,000	3,162,800	112,957	0					1	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Tennis Courts	23	1,341,000	23	1,000	350,000	1,341,000	58,304	0					0				
Playgrounds	33	1,382,500	28	1,500	350,000	1,142,500	40,804	4	10,000	60,000	140,000	35,000	1	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Swim'g Pools	21	18,920,000	21	10,000	5,500,000	18,920,000	900,952	0					0				
Lakes	12	5,382,000	3	52,000	450,000	727,000	242,333	9	5,000	2,500,000	4,655,000	517,222	0				
Boat Ramps-Lak	27	3,594,000	1	23,000	23,000	23,000	23,000	13	5,000	1,500,000	3,000,000	230,769	13	10,000	125,000	571,000	43,923
Boat Ramps-Riv	34	3,119,000	2	10,000	20,000	30,000	15,000	26	2,000	500,000	2,827,000	108,731	6	12,000	85,000	262,000	43,667
Boat Docks	28	3,738,000	2	4,500	20,000	24,500	12,250	12	8,000	2,500,000	3,203,000	266,917	14	3,500	100,000	510,500	36,464
Swim'g Beaches	7	149,250	4	1,250	75,000	114,250	28,563	0					3	5,000	20,000	35,000	11,667
Fish'g Access	44	9,677,000	7	1,000	500,000	667,000	95,286	31	15,000	2,500,000	8,785,000	283,387	6	10,000	85,000	225,000	37,500
Trails: Walk/Hike	46	4,400,500	14	5,000	500,000	1,480,000	105,714	14	5,000	500,000	1,437,000	102,643	18	2,500	230,000	1,483,500	82,417
Trails: Bike/Ped	23	9,570,000	17	15,000	3,500,000	5,535,000	325,588	4	60,000	1,000,000	1,220,000	305,000	2	15,000	2,800,000	2,815,000	1,407,500
Trails: Bike/Ped-U	23	3,124,000	9	10,000	200,000	565,000	62,778	9	2,000	1,000,000	1,587,000	176,333	5	75,000	500,000	972,000	194,400
Trails: Horse/Hike	29	2,805,000	1	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	4	5,000	130,000	210,000	52,500	24	35,000	250,000	2,585,000	107,708
Trails: XC-Grmd	2	190,000	1	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000	0					1	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Trails: OHV	2	150,000	0					0					2	30,000	120,000	150,000	75,000
Trails: Snowmobl	5	200,000	0					5	10,000	100,000	200,000	40,000	0				
Camp: Tent	51	2,863,000	2	5,000	12,000	17,000	8,500	26	1,000	500,000	2,009,000	77,269	23	5,000	95,000	837,000	36,391
Camp: w/ HU	4	660,000	2	35,000	75,000	110,000	55,000	2	50,000	500,000	550,000	275,000	0				
Camp: w/o HU	53	6,144,000	3	2,000	30,000	57,000	19,000	25	10,000	1,000,000	2,277,000	91,080	25	5,000	1,200,000	3,810,000	152,400
RV Dump Stn	16	1,563,000	4	1,000	70,000	86,000	21,500	6	2,000	500,000	1,257,000	209,500	6	15,000	50,000	220,000	36,667
Hunting Lands	10	9,440,000	1	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	8	5,000	1,000,000	2,340,000	292,500	1	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000
Shoot/Arch Rng	7	820,000	2	15,000	300,000	315,000	157,500	4	5,000	400,000	480,000	120,000	1	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Dwnhill Ski Area	1	2,000,000	1	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	0					0				
Sled/Tube Hills	2	665,000	2	65,000	600,000	665,000	332,500	0					0				
TOTALS		267,414,626		7,524,050	55,610,000	95,214,626	15,763,372		312,000	117,045,000	152,924,000	8,339,171		3,652,000	9,579,000	19,276,000	5,753,754

N = Number of survey participants who provided a cost estimate. Minim \$ = Lowest amount indicated by any one participant. Maxim \$ = Highest amount indicated by any one participant.
SUM = Sum of all participants' estimated costs for a given type of facility. Mean = Average estimated cost (sum divided by number of participants) for a given type of facility.

2.8 Summary & Implications of Outdoor Recreation Facility Supply

Montana has an extraordinary diversity of natural and man-made outdoor recreation facilities for both residents and nonresidents to enjoy. Because of the limited number of facility managers who participated in the online survey, the inventory of facilities presented in this chapter is incomplete. However, participants' ratings of facility conditions and needs do provide a statewide sampling of priorities for local, state and federal recreation programs over the next five years.

Clearly, existing facilities are in need of attention: there were three times more responses for facilities needing upgrades or repairs than for new land acquisition, and 25% more responses for upgrades or repairs than for new construction. At the local level, facility needs mentioned most frequently were swimming pools, ball fields, playgrounds, fairgrounds, bike and pedestrian trails and skate parks. Key state and federal needs included upgrades to fishing access sites, motorized and non-motorized trails, parks, boating facilities, campgrounds and interpretive facilities. A significant number of survey participants also expressed needs related to ADA compliance at existing facilities. However, the funds required to fulfill all of the facility needs far exceed the available local, state or federal resources.

To adequately maintain and enhance Montana's supply of outdoor recreation facilities, managers face a number of challenges. As detailed in the next chapter, there is increasing demand for recreational facilities and services, and an aging population. Moreover, managers are experiencing rising costs for management and maintenance of their facilities, declining state and federal recreation budgets, and the need for additional or alternative sources of funding. Chapter 4 discusses these issues further, and Chapter 5 proposes objectives and actions to address them.